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COMMENT OF THE DAY

A Stronger NATO

THE current meeting of the Council of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation is taking place under circumstances not envisaged a few weeks ago and which must have an impact on the deliberations in Paris. While the immediate tendency is to regard the Russian peace gestures with caution, the NATO representatives cannot dismiss the new developments as being inconsequential. Nor is it necessary for them to be misled. With all its apparent shortcomings, NATO today is nearer than ever before realisation of its objective—the creation of a unified Western Europe capable of deterring as well as withstanding aggression from the East. The unification programme is not yet complete, save in spirit, but impressive progress has been made to that end during past months. On the political side, the ratification by West Germany of the European Defence Community pact has been the outstanding event, and although M. Bidault has indicated to the NATO Council that France does not intend to be hurried into a similar act, it is reasonable to assume that M. Mayer, the French Premier, has returned from his visit to Washington more determined than ever to persuade the French Parliament to ratify EDC and to bring Germany within a West European army of defence. A further encouraging development has been Britain's declared willingness to associate itself more positively with the European Defence Community agreement short of committing her armed forces to submergence within the proposed European army.

A **N**OTHER highly important move since the NATO Council last met has been the encouragement given to members of NATO to equip their air forces with planes manufactured by themselves. Lord Ismay has correctly stated that for NATO countries to depend wholly on American planes is "not only strategically unsound, but logically unwise," and he adds, that under the new plan, NATO air forces will not only be equipped with the most modern aircraft, "but will have taken a long step forward in the furtherance of its planned air force build-up." The progress which NATO has made towards its ultimate goal must not be seen in too roseate a hue, yet the very existence of the organisation has already served a valuable purpose. Obviously it has made a big impression on the Russians who, at the very least, are now convinced about the determination of the West European countries and their North American allies to build up their economic, political and military resources to such a degree as to make aggression a costly and unsuccessful act. The knowledge of its achievements and the effect which they have had on the Communist bloc should encourage NATO to press forward with its plan for solidarity, for a unified and defensively strong Western Europe is the best, probably the only hope of persuading Soviet Russia that she has everything to lose by failing to support her peace overtures with commensurate actions.

U.S. FURTHER EASES RESTRICTIONS ON H.K. GOODS

Strikers Force Their Way Into Workshop

Paris, Apr. 23. Over 500 striking workers—members of the Communist, Socialist and Catholic Trade Unions—today forced their way into and occupied for six hours a workshop of the giant state-owned Renault motor works.

The management last night closed the workshop and locked out 5,000 workers who had struck for higher wages.

It did nothing today to expel the invaders nor did police try to intervene at the works—renowned as a trouble spot in the Paris "Red Belt"—Reuter.

Three-Hour Earthquake Recorded

London, Apr. 24. A "heavy earthquake" which lasted nearly three hours was recorded on a seismograph at Dorking, Surrey, near here.

Mr. E. M. Pollard, who recorded the earthquake, said: "It seems to be a very great disturbance and rather difficult to locate. I should think it is approximately 8,000 miles away."

He said it began at about 5.44 p.m. BST (British Summer Time)—Reuter.

TIDAL WAVE WARNING

Honolulu, Apr. 23. A tidal wave alert warning was sounded for Thursday following an earthquake about 3,000 miles southeast of the islands.

The U.S. Coast Guard at Barber's point, Oahu Island, gave the alarm and said the quake in the Pacific was "very large."

The alert was called off here after both Guam and Wake Islands reported no unusual activity after the time passed when any tidal wave caused by the quake would have reached the islands.

The quake was recorded at 4.34 p.m. GMT (1.34 a.m. Friday H.K. time) and was located in the vicinity of New Britain in the South Pacific.—Associated Press.

6 Mau Mau Killed

Nairobi, Apr. 23. Six members of a Mau Mau gang were killed, four wounded and five others captured in a clash today with a Kenya police patrol.

A running fight between the police party, numbering about 20, and the gang of about 40 began when the patrol was ambushed and fired on from thick bush in a forest area of Njoro, 10 miles north of Nakuru.

The police sprayed the surrounding area with fire from automatic weapons, killing three of the gang in the first burst.

The Mau Mau leader, who was wounded, tried to escape by crawling through the undergrowth, but was shot dead when he broke cover.

Five terrorists were killed early today in the Uplands area—scene of the Lari massacre last month, 25 miles north of Nairobi—when a Mau Mau gang clashed with a military patrol.—Reuter.

Concession To Tourists

SPECIAL CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN

The Acting Director of Commerce and Industry announced today that further agreement has been reached with the United States authorities regarding the procedure for importing into the USA locally manufactured or processed commodities.

In addition to the commodities referred to in the press announcement of January 10, 1953 comprehensive certificates of origin can now be issued for the following items:—silk piecegoods, cotton string gloves, bean thread, cotton piecegoods and cotton yarn for Mutual Security Agency contracts in Formosa.

Arrangements have also been made for the issue of special certificates of origin to tourists purchasing approved local products for import into the USA. These certificates will only be issued in respect of goods which accompany the tourist. Where the goods are despatched separately a normal comprehensive certificate of origin will be issued.

The special tourist certificate will only be approved in respect of goods purchased from certain approved shops and factories which meet the requirements of the Department of Commerce and Industry. These premises are under inspection by officers of the Department in order to ensure that tourists will not be able to purchase goods of purely Chinese origin, the entry of which is not permitted into the USA.

For each order a tourist must sign form 100A, copies of which will be available in the shop. A fee of \$5 is payable for each certificate which will only be issued in respect of goods not in excess of HK\$500 in value. The shop will make application for a certificate on behalf of the tourist. By special arrangement this will be delivered by the shop to a nominated airline or shipping agency which will despatch the certificate at the earliest opportunity to the next port of call visited by the tourist. In urgent cases where it is necessary for the tourist to carry the certificate on his person, every effort will be made by the Department to issue it before he leaves the Colony.

Lists of approved shops and factories will be circulated to airline and shipping agencies.

NOT MANY WILL DISARM

Bangkok, Apr. 23. Not more than 3,000 of the estimated 12,000 Chinese Nationalist guerrillas in the Burma-Yunnan border area are expected to surrender their arms. In case a plan emerges to disarm and withdraw them.

Thailand police say reports reaching them suggest the remaining 9,000 would refuse to disarm or be withdrawn via Thailand to Formosa.

Most of these troops are said to be natives of Yunnan and would refuse to go elsewhere. Several nations, including the United States, are working in the UN to seek a solution to the problem of Nationalist guerrillas in Yunnan.—Associated Press.

Sick Communist POWs Released



Sick and wounded Red prisoners held by the Allies disembark from a UN Landing Tank Ship prior to repatriation under the exchange agreement between the UN Command and the Communists. Several hundred prisoners from both sides have so far been returned to their own sides.—AP Photo.

"Something Wrong With Treatment Of UN POWs"—Eisenhower

Washington, Apr. 23. President Eisenhower told a news conference today that quite obviously there had been something wrong in the treatment of United Nations prisoners by the North Koreans and the Chinese Communists.

He also said he wanted as many prisoners exchanged as rapidly as possible.

At the same time the President told reporters that there had been no direct reply or response from the Soviet Union to the peace and disarmament proposals he had put forth a week ago today in his speech to the American Society of newspaper editors.

The President took a highly guarded view toward the Korean situation but said that he was heavy-hearted as he read stories of the brutality towards and the mistreatment of Allied troops.

Asked whether he thought there was any possibility of a prompt truce in Korea, the President said that he could not say because, like reporters, he was waiting to see what would develop.

Mercy Ships Under Fire

Seoul, Apr. 24. Three American destroyers and a cruiser came under heavy Communist shore fire at Wonsan yesterday (Thursday) while trying to remove wounded from an Allied-held island, the Navy reported today (Friday).

The Allies hold several small islands at the entrance of the big Eastern Korean harbour.

The Navy said carrier-based Panther jets came to the aid of the ships. Bombs from the planes and counterfire from the ships silenced the Red guns, the Navy said.

The Navy said the destroyers Owen, Henderson and Epperson, along with the light cruiser Manchester, were trying to remove wounded from an island in Wonsan Bay yesterday afternoon when they came under heavy Red fire from shore.

Asked about the nationality of the casualties on the island and how they had been wounded, a Navy spokesman in Tokyo said he had no further details.

It was the first time in many months that more than one American warship had come under Communist shore fire at the same time.

There were no reports of whether the ships were damaged. Ground fighting was at a minimum yesterday.

In the air, US Sabre jets probably destroyed two Communist MIGs and damaged two more over Northwest Korea.—Associated Press.

NATO Council Not Convinced

RUSSIAN PEACE OVERTURES

Paris, Apr. 23. The Atlantic Pact Council, the West's cold war headquarters, tonight told Mr. Malenkov in effect: "We are not convinced by your peace overtures."

But observers believe that by declaring that they regard the Russian moves as a change of heart, the Atlantic Pact chiefs did not dismiss the hope that Moscow may provide more convincing evidence of a desire to end the tension that has split the world for the past five years.

The Ministers' decision was a foregone conclusion. Each of the 14 Atlantic Pact governments submitted their assessment of the Russian moves to the Pact's permanent Council a week ago. Their conclusions all tallied.

It now looks as if the Western nations will take the initiative. They have agreed to raise again with Moscow the problem they have always maintained shows Russia's true intentions—the Austrian state treaty.

The original, long draft treaty to give Austria back her freedom, is already an agreed document. All it needs is the signatures of the four occupying powers—Britain, France, the United States and Russia.

At the last meeting of the Foreign Ministers' Deputies in 1951, the Russians refused to continue negotiations until the Western Powers withdrew a shorter version they put up in the hope of breaking the deadlock.

The Western powers refused. But since then, the Russian "peace offensive" has opened, and they may now feel that the improved atmosphere justifies their acceptance of the Russian demand.—Reuter.

Uniforms In Malaya Banned

Kuala Lumpur, Apr. 23. The Malayan government today banned the wearing of uniforms by persons taking part in political assemblies.

An announcement by High Commissioner Sir Gerald Templer referred to troubles caused by black shirts and brown shirts in Europe and elsewhere.

It emphasised this ban will prevent such troubles occurring here, and forestall threats to "democratic political development" in Malaya.—Associated Press.

Five German Officers Planning A New Luftwaffe

London, Apr. 23. Five German officers are planning a new Luftwaffe for Western Germany consisting of 320 planes and 50,000 men.

These officers have top jobs in a shadow High Command which has been laying plans for the past year in Bonn. Their work so far is all on paper, for the go ahead signal to build up the force cannot be given until the European Defence Treaty is signed.

In charge of the air planning staff is 47-year-old Col Richard Heuser, former Chief of Staff of the Fourth German Air Force at the end of the war.

German air contingents will be split up and placed in international tactical groups under the command of various nationalities appointed by a European General Staff.

Not one of Heuser's aides is over 42 and all fought in the war.

Many Germans believe that if a European Army and Air Force do not come into being, Western Germany will be invited to join NATO as an equal partner with her own national forces.

In that case Heuser has ready the nucleus of a Luftwaffe General Staff.—London Express Service.

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BURT LANCASTER

The Crimson Pirate

TECHNICOLOR

DEFEAT FOR SOVIET BLOC

Charges Of Germ Warfare To Be Investigated

British Approach To Hague

On Trading With Red China

Washington, Apr. 23. An authoritative diplomatic source said today that the British Foreign Office was reported to have informally approached the Netherlands Government to adopt a similar system to that recently imposed in Britain to ensure that strategic materials from non-Dutch sources are not carried to Communist China in Dutch ships.

The source referred to the fact that the communiques published on March 17 on the Anglo-American talks at that time said that Britain had agreed "to introduce a new system of licensing vessels registered in the United Kingdom and the Colonies so that strategic materials from non-British sources could not be carried to China in British ships."

This was a result of the visit of the British Foreign Secretary, Mr. Anthony Eden, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. R. A. Butler here.

The source understood that the British in their demarche particularly wanted closer controls over the trans-shipment in the port of Rotterdam and he believed this had been mentioned in the talks between United States and British officials here.

He understood the demarche was a perfectly friendly one and not in any way intended to interfere in Dutch policy in such matters, but apparently the British Government wanted to show the United States it was doing all it could to prevent loopholes for the sending of strategic materials to Communist China.

He further understood that the Dutch Government had already done a great deal to prevent the shipment of such materials to Communist China.

United Press.

Cattle Peak And Outlook

Washington, Apr. 23. The world's cattle population at January 1 reached "a new record level," with an estimated 845m. head, the U.S. Agriculture Department publication, Foreign Crops and Markets, reports. Numbers are likely to increase again in 1953, it was added.

"Argentine numbers are building up again and with the impetus of a fairly favourable contract with the United Kingdom should recover to the levels reached prior to the drought of 1949-50.

"In Uruguay, as is true to some extent in other livestock producing countries, competition from sheep raising is keen. In New Zealand and Australia conditions are favourable for further increase, breeding herds have been built up, new contracts with the U.K. for beef have been recognised increased cost of production and drought conditions have ended in Australia."

STAR

— SHOWING TO-DAY —

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"SWEET MEMORIES"

CHERRY PICTURE

25. S. SWEET MEMORIES

26. S. S. SWEET MEMORIES

27. M. Rose of Chariton

28. T. Walk East on Heaton

29. W. On Moonlight Bay

30. T. Constellation

31. T. The Three Musketeers

Decisive Vote In General Assembly On U.S. Resolution

United Nations, Apr. 23. Fifty-one nations today voted in the General Assembly in favour of the establishment of a five-member commission to investigate charges of germ warfare brought by the Chinese Communists and North Koreans against United Nations forces.

The Commission members will be Brazil, Egypt, Pakistan, Sweden and Uruguay.

The Soviet bloc nations voted against the resolution and four countries abstained — Burma, India, Indonesia and Saudi Arabia.

In the course of today's brief debate the United States declared that the Chinese Communists were still continuing their "campaign of lies" concerning germ warfare in Korea.

Mr. Ernest Gross (U.S.) said that Peking Radio had just broadcast the alleged charges that United Nations aircraft had dropped infected insects along railway lines in North Korea.

"Why has it been impossible to lay at rest charges so gross and so false?" Mr. Gross asked. "We should either agree to an impartial investigation or cease a campaign which adds to international tension."

The General Assembly adjourned after Sir Gladwyn Jebb, the acting President, had expressed the hope that "it will not be long before we all meet again to discuss the organization of peace following an armistice in Korea on the conclusion of which so much depends."

Delegates applauded Sir Gladwyn Jebb's closing remarks and broke up with smiling faces shaking hands and exchanging the President's hope that they would be meeting again soon.—Reuter.

Vast Market For Exports Untapped

London, Apr. 23. Sir Reginald Rootes, Deputy Chairman of the Rootes group of British car manufacturers, said today that he had been struck during his recent visit to the United States by the vast potential for an industrial nation such as Britain to do more export business.

The Middle East, in fact, the whole East was not only under-going rapid changes in national attitudes but also in industrial and commercial outlook.

He urged top executives of his business to travel more and see the situation for themselves. "We also want more visits to our countries by our Government Ministers and top officials. They must be fully informed," Sir Reginald said.—Reuter.

Big Contract For Moira

London, Apr. 23. Moira Shearer, the ballet dancer, has entered an agreement with Sir Alexander Korda which will bring her the highest salary ever paid to a film star in Britain.

She will make two pictures for Korda for approximately £50,000.

Miss Shearer, who is 27, has made two British films and one in Holland which has not yet been shown in London.—Reuter.

POP

HALL OF MIRRORS THAT ODD BRO

A SAD CASE IN AFRICA

ONE THAT ONLY TIME WILL CURE!

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH HIM?

KEEP TOMMY!

Belgrade Puts The Blame On Hungarians

Belgrade, Apr. 23. Yugoslavia today protested to Hungary that 223 frontier incidents were provoked last month by Hungarian forces.

The Yugoslav Foreign Secretary, Kosta Popovic, said in a note delivered to the Hungarian Legation that the Hungarian Government bore full responsibility for the incidents, which he said were "hostile to Yugoslavia and threatened peace."

The official news agency, Tanjug, reported that the note was accompanied by a seven-page supplement containing a detailed description of the alleged incidents which Tanjug said ranged from the smuggling into the country of anti-Yugoslav propaganda to violation of air spaces by Hungarian planes.—Reuter.

Antarctic Storms Upset Estimates

London, Apr. 23. The first of Britain's whaling ships returned from the Antarctic yesterday when the factory ship Abraham Larsen docked at Liverpool with 6,000 tons of whale oil (112,000 barrels).

This season's Antarctic catch for all nations totalled 15,000 units—1,000 units less than the number laid down by the International Whaling Commission. Poor catches and bad Antarctic storms upset the calculations of the International Whaling Commission.

In the middle of each season, the Commission calculates the date when the total permitted catch will be reached. A fortnight before they broadcast the closing date for fishing.

The weather and the unexpectedly poor catch during the last half of the season upset their calculations.

The Abraham Larsen's catch of 9,000 tons of oil represented the product of 2,438 whales.

Competition among various nations fishing in the Antarctic this season was greater than ever before. Although there were three fewer expeditions than last year, the number of auxiliary vessels—such as whale catchers, shooting steamers and towing boats—increased from 221 to 245.

Norway had the largest fleet with seven floating factories with auxiliary vessels attached. Britain was second with three, Japan had two and Soviet Russia, South Africa, Holland and Panama one each. In addition, Britain, Norway and Argentina each had one land station on South Georgia.

According to the figures published by the Commission last month, the seven expeditions produced a total of 738,147 barrels of whale oil and 27,347 barrels of sperm oil.—United Press.

Sharett In S. America

Buenos Aires, Apr. 23. Moshe Sharett, Israeli Foreign Minister, left by plane for Santiago after a 10-day official visit.

Mr. Sharett and Argentine Foreign Minister Jeronimo agreed yesterday to extend arrangements between the two countries to promote increased interchange of goods.

Mr. Sharett plans to return to Buenos Aires on April 27 en route for Uruguay and Brazil prior to his flight back to Israel.—Associated Press.

TO-MORROW

QUEEN'S ALHAMBRA

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A Man-turned-Monster and the Beauty he craves!

POLAROID VIEWERS

Viewers are required to see this picture and will be sold to patrons at the cost price of 50 cents each, at the same time as admission tickets. As stocks are very limited, each patron is entitled to purchase only one viewer.

Viewers can be used for other 3-D pictures or can be loaned to relatives or friends.

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ATOMIC WARFARE TRAINING

Washington, Apr. 23. The U.S. Defence Department announced today that it will train key European Allied officers in atomic warfare. Instruction will begin next Tuesday.

A statement from the headquarters of General Matthew Ridgway, Supreme Allied Commander, said that the courses were designed to acquaint Allied officers with the "use of atomic weapons in tactical situations".

The brief announcement said the courses would exclude any information classified as "atomic secrets" in the United States Atomic Energy Act.

American officers will conduct the courses, which will be given in the United States Zone of Germany.

Key commanders of the Atlantic Treaty Nations will take four-day and staff officers 10-day courses.

They will go through the training in small groups over a period of several months. The Defence Department said that the courses would "enable the commanders and staff to take into consideration the implications of atomic warfare in the defence of Western Europe".

The wording of the announcement appeared to exclude consideration of the larger and atomic bombs, who are held been earmarked for strategic bombing and operations.

Defence Department spokesmen declined to elaborate on the brief announcement, and daily refused to say whether any actual atomic weapons would be used in the courses.—Reuter.

New Refugee Invasion?

Berlin, Apr. 23. The 100,000th refugee to reach West Berlin from East Germany was flown to West Germany today.

He was one of a daily quota of 1,200 now being taken out of West Berlin by British Airways, Pan American Airways and Air France.

Refugee officials said the recent decline in the number of refugees was thought to be only temporary. A new invasion was expected next month when an estimated 5,000,000 East Germans will be left without ration cards following a recent Government edict depriving categories including employers and landowners of them.—Reuter.

STEVENSON OFF TO RANGOON

Bangkok, Apr. 23. Mr. Adlai Stevenson and his party concluded a brief visit to Bangkok and left by air for Rangoon this morning, three hours earlier than scheduled.

A scheduled Press conference as well as a lunch in Mr. Stevenson's honour were dropped at short notice apparently because of a change in the flight schedule.—United Press.

Lie Greets Successor



Dr Dag Hammarskjöld (right), the new Secretary-General of the United Nations, arrives at Idlewild Airport, New York, from Stockholm and is welcomed by Mr Trygve Lie, the retiring Secretary-General.—Express Photo.

Mossadegh's Victory Over The Shah

Tehran, Apr. 23. Mossadegh resigned today as Minister of the Royal Court.

The resignation, on a plea of ill health, was accepted by the Shah.

Ala has recently been the subject of Premier Mohammed Mossadegh's criticism.

The resignation has not yet officially been announced but was confirmed by Ala's household.

Speculation immediately arose whether Ala resigned in discouragement over the trend of Court-Government relations or was forced out.

In either case his resignation is a success for Premier Mossadegh who intended he considered Ala a key figure in the Court's lack of harmony with the Government.—Associated Press.

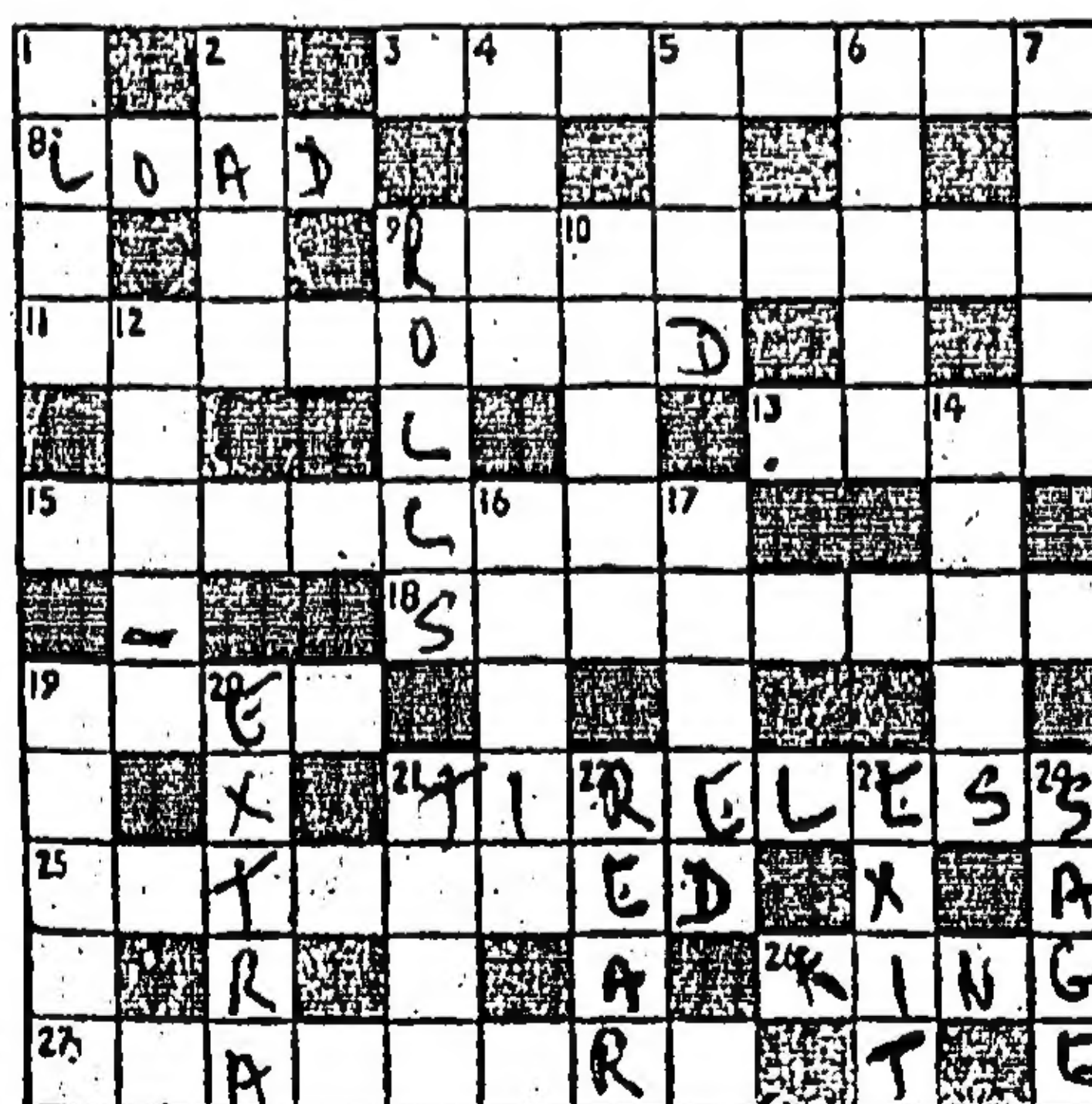
WON'T ISSUE PASSPORTS

Tokyo, Apr. 24.

Mr. Takao Matsuo, chief of the Passport Section of the Foreign Office, told reporters that the Foreign Office will not issue passports to six delegates of the working committee on May Day celebrations who desire to visit Red China to take part in coming May Day celebrations in Peking.

The official further said that no visa will be issued by the Japanese Foreign Office for Lee Chueh-shin, who intends to come to this country to participate in May Day celebrations here as representative of the National Federation of Workers of Communist China.—Reuter.

A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS
- Not injurious (8).
 - Burden (4).
 - Servant (8).
 - Advanced (8).
 - Catalogue (4).
 - Unfortunate (4).
 - Relatives by marriage (8).
 - Enthusiastic (4).
 - Unflattering (8).
 - Went faster (8).
 - Ruler (4).
 - Rece officials (8).

- DOWN
- Failure (4).
 - Lower few feet of room-wall (4).
 - Encourage (4).
 - Encourage (4).
 - Boredom (5).
 - Support (5).
 - Turns over and over (5).
 - Torment (5).
 - Itinerary (5).
 - Airs (5).
 - Moral (5).
 - Spells (5).
 - Entanglements (5).
 - Additional (5).
 - Sharp (4).
 - Bring up (4).
 - Way out (4).
 - Wise (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD. — Across: 1. Solace, 4. Bumps, 7. Admonish, 8. Exile, 9. Profit, 11. Esteem, 13. Intrude, 15. Sinus, 16. Twist, 19. Rally, 20. Torso, 21. Nettle. — Down: 1. Swamp, 2. Aloof, 3. Exiled, 4. Belated, 5. Manifest, 6. Sirens, 10. Outlander, 12. Session, 13. Intact, 14. Untrue, 16. Allot, 17. Hyle.

U.S. Businessmen Call For A Reduction In Tariffs FIVE-POINT PLAN

Washington, Apr. 23. The American Council of the International Chamber of Commerce today called for a progressive reduction in all United States tariffs starting with a 20 per cent cut in January.

The businessmen also asked for the repeal of preferential legislation, including the "Buy American" Act, which restricts the purchase of foreign goods.

The measures are part of a five-point plan to relieve "the tragically absurd position to which the international trade of this country has been allowed to drift."

In a report released today, the Council described President Eisenhower's decision to ask Congress to extend the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act for a year as "inadequate."

1. The passing of a Bill to simplify customs measures;
2. Progressive reduction in all United States tariffs, beginning with a cut of not less than 20 per cent in January;
3. The repeal of preferential legislation, including the "buy American" Act;
4. The gradual abolition of import quota restrictions;
5. The appointment of a special advisory group of businessmen to study ways of expanding America's foreign trade.

IN U.S. INTEREST

The Council said a more thorough reorientation of the United States commercial policy was needed.

"A mere continuation of past legislation is inadequate to meet today's problems," it said.

"The extension of trade, both domestic and foreign, is in the interest of this nation—its labour, its industry, its agriculture and its consumers."

"Today, this nation, against its best interests, offers numerous impediments to the increase of its imports—tariff barriers, complicated customs procedures, import quotas, and various forms of special legislation designed to shield particular American producers from the full impact of foreign competition," the report stated.

"We believe that the severity of the dislocation of our domestic economy which might result from overnight repeal of all these restrictive measures has been greatly exaggerated."

"To the extent that fear of imports is based on the assumption that domestic producers cannot compete against foreign firms employing lower paid labour, it overlooks the relative advantage of our higher productivity."

But, the report added: "The burden of increased imports might fall unevenly on various United States industries and their labour."

"It is impossible to know in advance where and how disruptive the impact would be."

"Accordingly, we think it impolitic and unnecessarily risky to eliminate all protection in a single step," the report said.

The Council stated it was also essential that the United States should press for the relaxation of other countries' trade barriers.—Reuter.

Karachi Ceremony

Karachi, Apr. 23. The Swedish Minister in Pakistan, Ragnarvald Bagge, today presented his credentials to Pakistan Governor-General Ghulam Mohammed.

Foreign Minister Zafarullah Khan introduced the Minister to the Governor-General.—Associated Press.

British Firm's Bid Will Be Accepted

Washington, Apr. 23.

President Eisenhower explained why a British firm's bid for the building of the generators for the new Chief Joseph Dam had been turned down and said that a new and favourable bid would be accepted.

He was asked at his weekly press conference to comment on the current controversy over the decision of the Secretary of Defence, Mr. Charles Wilson, to turn down a British firm's bid for the generators which are to cost over US\$1,000,000 (£2,100,000) though the British bid was about US\$1,000,000 (£2,350,000) less than the nearest bid of a United States competitor.

Mr. Eisenhower said that the question of the low British bid for the generators had been brought up with him. It had been dealt with very properly by the Secretary of Defence, Mr. Charles Wilson.

He explained that the reason for this cancellation was that there had been nothing in the specifications given when the bids were asked for to cover the question of equal quality in the generators.

He said that there was nothing in the specifications now being rewritten which would tend to exclude a British firm.—Reuter.

Shakespeare Anniversary

Stratford-on-Avon, Apr. 23.

Diplomats from 82 countries and thousands of visitors are celebrating the 389th anniversary of the birthday of William Shakespeare.

Under a summer-like blue sky unfurled in a world salute to the playwright, followed by a floral procession to the house where he was born and the little church in whose graveyard his bones lie.

Diplomats from many countries on both sides of the Iron Curtain—including Russia—went first, carrying wreaths and bouquets.

For the first time ever, a reporter from the London office of Moscow's Pravda attended the official luncheon in the restaurant of the Memorial Theatre.—Reuter.

FORD RECORD

Dagenham, Apr. 23.

During March the Ford Works here—British subsidiary of the American Ford organisation—turned out 20,002 vehicles and tractors.

That total of nearly 100 units an hour during working hours is an all-time record for the British company.—Associated Press.

Colombo Plan Council Reports On Progress

London, Apr. 23.

The Colombo Plan's Council for Technical Co-operation provided increasing aid last year to non-Commonwealth member nations.

But the Council's report published today showed that by far the largest share of aid to South-east Asia—technical experts and training centres—still went to India, Pakistan and Ceylon.

During 1952 the number of experts and training places provided were respectively 90 and 330, compared with 45 and 303 in 1951.

Since the inception of the technical scheme, in June, 1950, up to last December 135 experts and 847 training places had been provided.

Of these India, Pakistan and Ceylon had 118 experts and 609 training places.

Most of the 90 experts provided last year were engaged in specific projects where their duties included the training of local personnel. There was an increasing demand for experts mainly for personnel training.

The report also recorded an increase in the number of schemes which combine capital and technical assistance.

COMBINED EFFORT

The Australian, Canadian and New Zealand governments are combining to provide capital, equipment and technical assistance for an experimental live-stock farm in Pakistan.

The Canadian Government is supplying equipment and personnel for a pilot project in mechanised fishing in Ceylon. Canada will also provide equipment and experts for an aerial and geological survey of Pakistan.

A steady increase was also reported in the demand for and the provision of equipment for training and research institutions.

Britain is supplying tool room equipment worth about £35,000 to the Indian Institute of Technology at Harangpur.

In line with the basic concept of the Colombo Plan—each country doing what it can to assist in the development of

the area as a whole—under-developed member nations are themselves exchanging experts and training facilities with their neighbours.

BRITISH SHARE

The technical assistance scheme is administered by a permanent bureau in Colombo. It is headed by Mr. Geoffrey Wilson, formerly of the British Treasury.

The cost of the technical assistance provided is met from individual funds, which now total £8,000,000.

They are provided by the original members of the Council—Australia, Canada, Ceylon, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, Nepal, Indonesia and Britain.

Britain's share is to provide technical assistance valued at £2,800,000.

The report, published today, covers the contributions of the members of the Council—Australia, Canada, Ceylon, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, Cambodia, Vietnam, Burma, Nepal, Indonesia and Britain.

The overall £1,808,000,000 six-year Colombo Plan for the economic development of South-east Asia became operative on July 1, 1950.—Reuter.

Failure To Arrive At Agreement

Rangoon, Apr. 23. An Indian trade delegation which arrived here to negotiate a barter purchase of half a million tons of Burma rice, will leave for India tomorrow without signing any agreement. The leader of the delegation, Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kldwal, India's Food Minister, left for India today.

A Burmese delegation, led by Commerce Minister Thakin Thakin, will visit India in the middle of May, when negotiations are to be continued.

A Government communiqué said "The Indian trade delegation, having had full frank discussions, have agreed in principle that in connection with rice transactions a system of barter might be adopted. The Government of Burma will shortly be sending a buying mission to negotiate purchases in India."

It is noted here that the Government communiqué made no mention that any agreement as to details of the barter trade had been reached except in principle.—Reuter.

Paints Gloomy Picture

Singapore, Apr. 23.

A gloomy picture for developments in Malaya following a heavy drop in the price of rubber over the past year was given in the Department of Labour report for March issued in Kuala Lumpur today.

Rubber properties were being put on a care and maintenance basis, trade in all branches was suffering and shop profits were down and internal reorganisation and retrenchment were general, the report stated.

But there was as yet no general unemployment and jobs were still available, particularly in Eastern Malaya.

The Labour Department's monthly reports, until now, noted only localised effects caused by the drop in rubber prices.—Reuter.

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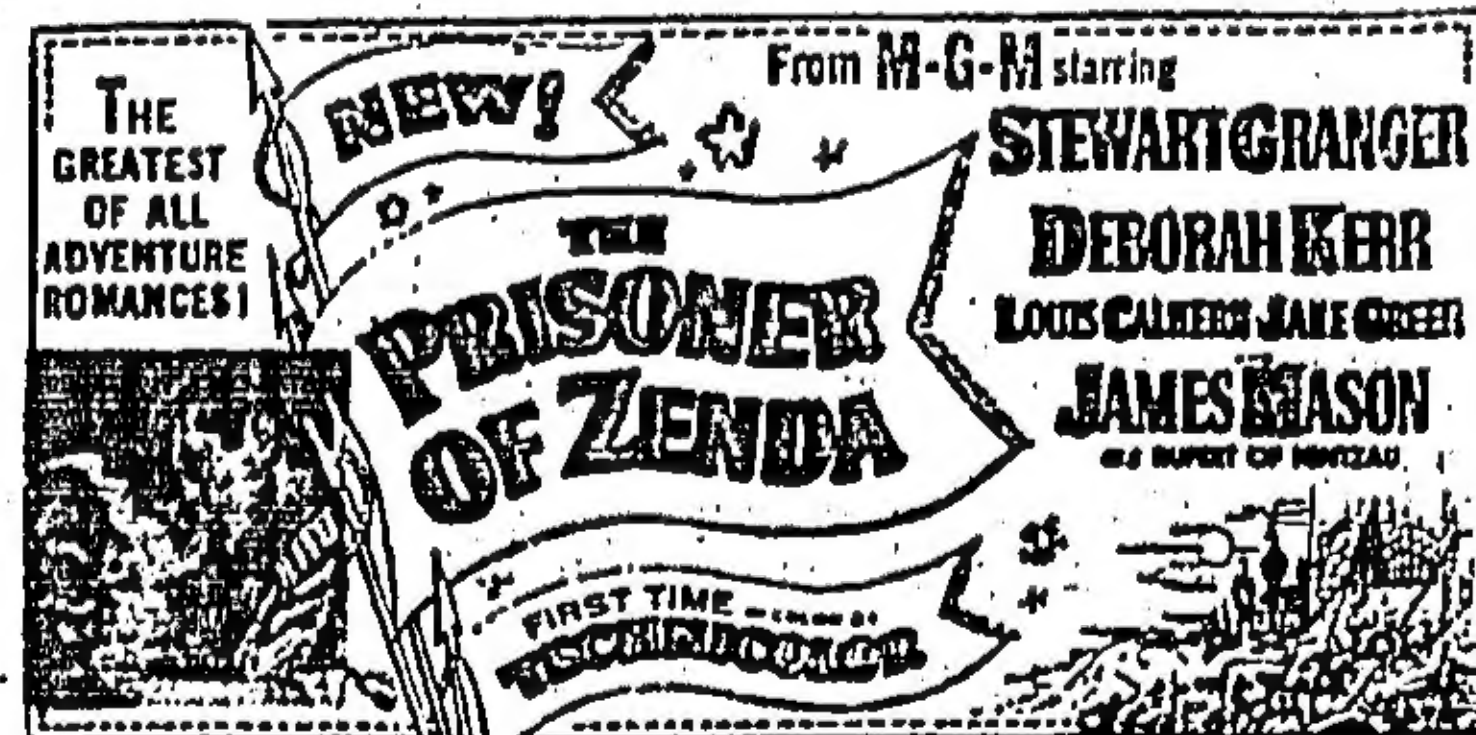
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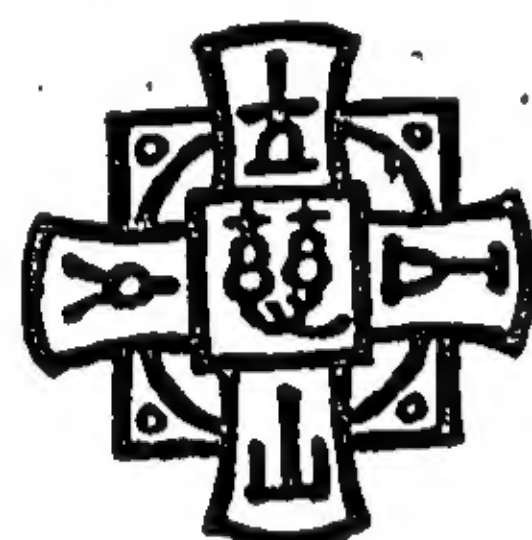
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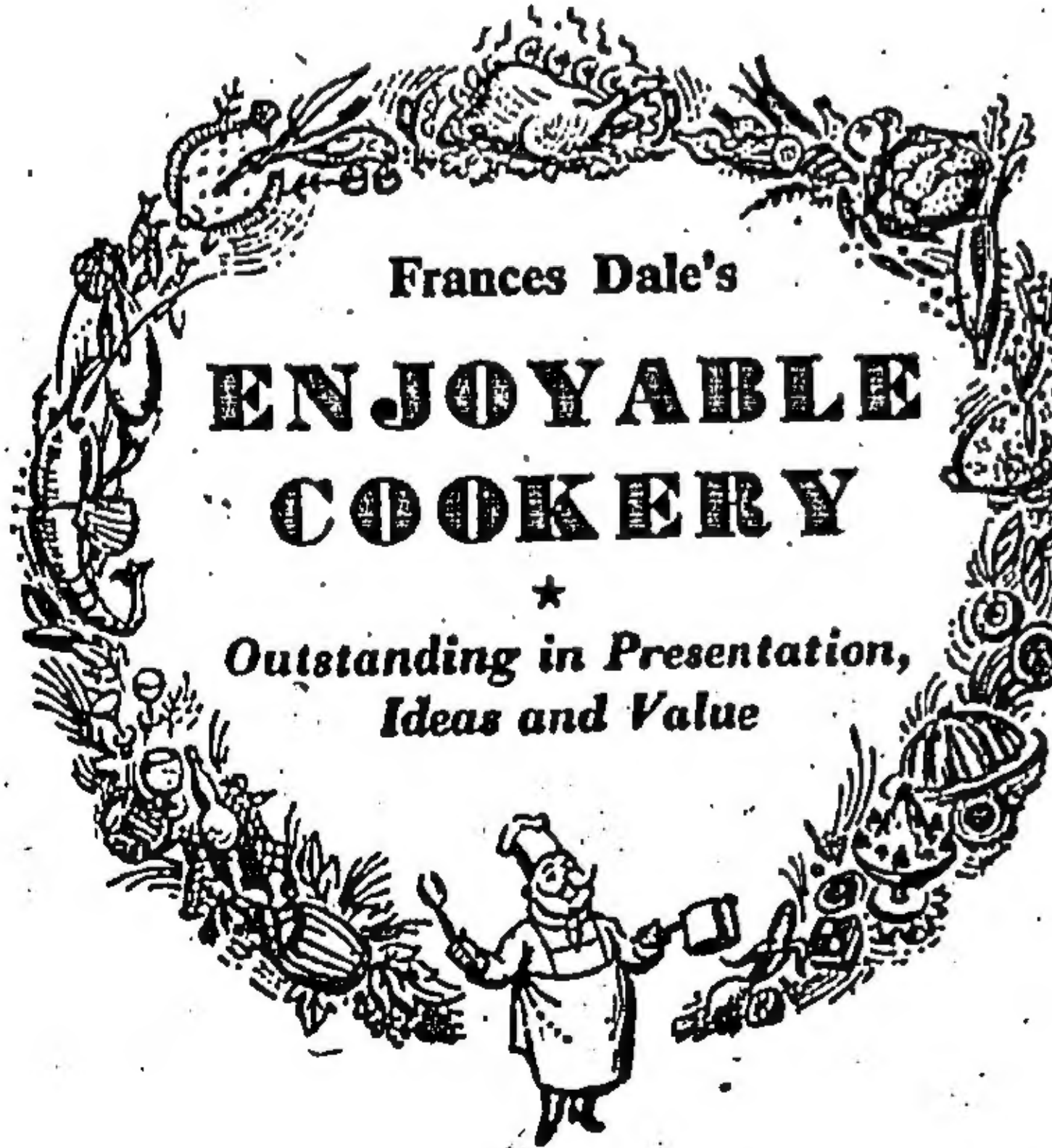


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The Man With The Whip

"They Have Their Exits"

Chapter Five: by

ALFREY NEAVE

D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C.



"Attention, Polish
swine...."

In previous chapters Colonel Neave has described his escape, with F.O. Forbes, R.A.F., from a German prison camp in Poland—Stalag XXa. Disguised as Polish workmen and equipped with forged passes they set off for the Russian frontier, sheltering where they dare—in remote Polish farms. Near Wloclawek they are resting by the Vistula when Neave looks up to see a German officer regarding them suspiciously.

BEHIND his black-rimmed spectacles the German officer's eyes were puzzled. He seemed about to speak, then walked away over the fields towards Wloclawek.

Frightened, we climbed up the bank and walked through the town. Nazi flags and pennants hung from every house and shop. It was Hitler's birthday.

In front of us a Polish Jew, an old, bent man, with the Star of David painted in yellow on his back, walked slowly on the pavement. A small party of S.S. marched past singing. The old Jew, too bent and frail to notice, failed to salute them. A fair young thug stepped from the ranks and struck him on the head. His hat spun in the wind and rolled across the road. The S.S. man pushed him from the pavement so that he stumbled in the gutter and began to moan.

On the morning of the third day of our escape we continued slowly along the south bank of the Vistula meeting here and there a lonely woodman. I could travel at only a very slow pace. It seemed that I had lost my feet and that my legs were only raw stumps, dragging along the ground.

guard house. No sentries, no controls, no sign of life. We walked through the posts and, undecided, stepped off the roadway on to the grass making for a new patch of forest. Two German frontier guards, a bare twenty yards away, sat together upon a bank watching us in silence.

Their rifles lay beside them. They picked them up, and walked towards us as we stood, worn out and unable to run away. They were big and stupid and fresh-faced and spoke to us amiably as British constables would address a pair of tramps.

"Where are your papers?" They looked at us in surprise. "Everyone must have papers to cross the frontier. Surely you know that?"

"But we were only going to visit our mother, who is sick at

Sochaczew. This is my brother," said Forbes, indicating me.

"Where have you come from?" "Gombin."

"We can soon check up on that, my children."

They led us back to the guard house and pushed open the door of a small office where a hard-faced man sat at a table with a heavy leather whip hanging from the wall beside him. He looked up and shouted at us as we stood awkwardly by the door.

"Attention, Polish swine!"

We stood painfully to attention and listened to the sentry's report of our discovery. The official told the sentries to take Forbes outside and wait. I stood before the table trying to answer his questions, but in my terrible fatigue my brain refused to function clearly.

I forgot my German and spoke to him haltingly. He began to laugh and brandished the whip in my face. I no longer cared that I was caught again or even if this brutal official were to flog me to death.

I struggled with his questions for a few minutes and then, unable to fight on, showed him my metal identity disc with my name and the words "Prisoner of War No. 1103."

They brought Forbes back to face a chorus of questions and threats. For several minutes he struggled gallantly.

"We don't believe you! You are not Englishmen, but Polish spies! This is a matter for the Gestapo."

The man at the table lifted the telephone receiver and began to talk rapidly. I did not hear, I swayed half-fainting against the wall of the guard house and every time I did so I was told sharply to stand to attention.

SW SW

At length a sentry came to the door, and we were ordered to march back with him to flow. As we walked painfully in front of him Forbes tore a piece of paper in small bits. I remembered in an instant what it was.

We had provided ourselves with two copies of a map of the German aerodrome at Graudenz. A great fear surged through me, hopeless as I was. Where was the other copy?

From flow we were taken in the back of a truck with one sentry to guard us along the road. We had travelled the day before.

At Plock the truck drew up beside a high modern stone building; and we were ordered down to the pavement. The sentry moved with us towards the entrance and as he did so, my heart missed a beat, then pounded in my throat. Upon a notice board beside the entrance was the word:

GESTAPO

Tomorrow: They call me a Spy.

FROZEN FOR FRESHNESS

New York. No more stale bread, no more stale bakers. They are going to freeze it.

Arnold, bakers of New York, got the idea from Rear-Admiral Richard Byrd. On his last Antarctic expedition the admiral found bread in a tin, but four years before under 20ft. of snow had remained wholesome and tasty.

The housewife will buy a week's supply at a time from the baker's deep freezer. Slices will go direct from fridge to toaster.

SENATOR ROBERT TAFT, who sought the presidency in 1940, 1948, and 1952, predicts that President Eisenhower will get it again in 1956.

HOLLYWOOD is deeper in the dumps. A second studio, Warner Brothers, has asked top officials to take 50 percent salary cuts.

New production is suspended for conversion to films in depth. Even the studio cafeteria is closing down.

INSECTICIDE makers are plagued by a bug shortage.

AMERICA COLUMN
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A hot dry summer last year cut down the insect population, piled up surpluses of D.D.T. and other killers.

Prices are falling. HARVARD UNIVERSITY students, supposed to be famous for scholarship, are also renowned for their white buckskin shoes.

They must have a casual, well-worn look. So students dirty them a bit before putting them on.

Now a shop sells buckskin drilled by the manufacturer before they go on sale.

JANE RUSSELL is not worried about emotional complications for her adopted son, little London-born Tommy Kavanagh, 4, as has been suggested. Tommy's real mother moves to California and becomes a neighbour of the film star.

Said Miss Russell: "I wouldn't object to Mrs. Kavanagh visiting Tommy. It would be perfectly fine."

They say 30-year-old Mrs. Mildred Clarkson Zaharias will never play golf again.

She is seriously ill at her home in Beaumont, Texas. Last year "the Babe" had an operation. Now she must have another operation.

The Babe, otherwise "Mighty Mildred," has driven a ball 408 yards, and at one time excelled in 14 branches of athletics.

In 1947 she won the British women's amateur golf championship.

OF 345 men tested by the New York Automobile Club only 11 percent failed straight driving tests.

Of 112 women tested, 31 percent could not drive straight.

THE Land of Opportunity seems just that to 525 men who have received greetings from President Eisenhower. They became heads of companies doing business of one million dollars (\$257,000) a year or more before they were 30. And 135 started their businesses "from scratch."

She'll Fly 1996 Miles To Shop

By Evelyn Irons

TALL, blue-eyed Mrs. Avis Bohlen is not the worrying sort, but she confesses she has had a worrying time lately. In the weeks since President Eisenhower designated her handsome 6ft. 11in. husband as U.S. Ambassador to Russia, he has had German measles and been assailed as politically untrustworthy by the two mud-slinging Macc-Senators McCarthy and McCarran.

The Senators succeeded in delaying the Senate's approval of the appointment, thus making the name of Bohlen the biggest controversial storm centre of Ike's presidency so far.

Young Charles, aged six, will attend a Moscow school for diplomats' children. "Celestine" no problem, she's just 10," Mrs. Bohlen said.

Spasso House, the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, is a big, fully furnished home, with every comfort, including three modern deep-freeze cabinets where enough food for months can be stored. Mrs. Bohlen will not order anything but a few extras in Moscow; from past experience she knows she must try to get her supply of butter, eggs, tinned foods and frozen meats.

Her order

There has been trouble too about her brother Charles Thayer, who is U.S. Consul at Munich. Thayer has just given up his job, intending to devote himself to authorship. But McCarthy, recalling that he was formerly head of the much-criticized U.S. Iron-Curtain propaganda network "Voice of America," told the Senate Thayer had been fired, implying the whole family was under a cloud.

It has all been highly disturbing for a wife whose husband faces the biggest test of his career under the new Soviet regime at a crucial point of the world's history.

Two visits

But now it is all settled, messes and McCarthy are left behind, and the Bohlens are in Moscow. "I'm looking forward to it tremendously," Mrs. Bohlen said before she left.

Mrs. Bohlen has lived in Paris and London and other capitals as a diplomat's wife, but more important, she knows Moscow well. She was there with her husband when he was second secretary in the U.S. Embassy in 1938-1940.

And it was in Moscow they first met. That was 1934, when Avis, with her married sister, took a trip for a visit to brother Charles, who was vice-consul there. The two Charleses, Thayer and Bohlen, shared a Moscow flat; and "Chip" Bohlen fell in love with his colleague's young sister.

She was just the right girl for a brilliant hard-working career diplomat whom an American friend describes as "Never a cookie pusher, cocktail lounge-hound or drawing-room darling."

Daughter of a comfortably-off Philadelphia family, she was not a career girl but had studied languages for one year at the celebrated women's college, Bryn Mawr ("Not for a degree, but just to finish my education," she says) then spent a year in Germany learning the correct accent.

The next year Bohlen was transferred to Washington, and immediately called on the Thayers in Philadelphia. He and Avis married a few months later.

Now they have three children. The eldest, a girl named Avis,

She has already planned her order which she will place with the American Commissary in Berlin.

Berlin is 1,996 miles by air from Moscow, but it will be Mrs. Bohlen's nearest shopping centre for main household necessities.

She has packed a few pictures, books and other household treasures which will be sent by surface route to make the Embassy more homelike. The Bohlens' small, pleasant, frame house in Washington, D.C., being left furnished while they are away. She and the children stayed with her mother, Mrs. George Thayer, in Philadelphia, awaiting departure.

Also planned as for a long campaign are clothes for herself and children. "I enjoyed shopping for the wardrobe in New York and Washington. I love clothes," Mrs. Bohlen said. She took lots of evening gowns for formal entertaining and party-going, and she had to include everything from a fur coat to the thinnest summer frocks to face the extremes of Moscow climate.

Likes vodka

"Chip" Bohlen, who was Roosevelt's interpreter and adviser in Tcheran and Yalta, speaks Russian so idiomatically that he astonishes the Russians. Mrs. Bohlen says modestly: "I speak a little, just enough to get on with."

At home she is fully occupied looking after the house and children herself. She enjoys domesticity, but she faces equally the task of controlling a staff of Embassy servants, and hosting at formal Embassy parties.

Fortyish, quiet-spoken, intelligent, well-read, Mrs. Bohlen does not smoke, but likes a little vodka with her evening meals and looks forward to the Russian ballet of which she became an enthusiast on previous visits.

Diplomatically, she is not commenting on what she thinks of Malenkov, chances of peace, and living conditions behind the Iron Curtain.

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"PAKHOT"	Tientsin	10 a.m. 26th Apr.
"FUNGING"	Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka & Kobe	8 a.m. 27th Apr.
"FENGTHIN"	Tokyo, Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka & Kobe	8 a.m. 30th Apr.
"YOHCHOW"	Belawan, Keelung, Tientsin, Hongkong, Keelung	10 a.m. 30th Apr.
"SHENGKING"	Keelung	10 a.m. 1st May
"HUPEI"	Keelung	10 a.m. 9th May
"SZECHUEN"	Keelung	5 p.m. 9th May
"FUKIEN"	Shanghai, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar	8 a.m. 10th May

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"FUNGING"	Indonesia & Balikpapan	7 a.m. 25th Apr.
"HUPEI"	Tientsin	7 a.m. 27th Apr.
"SHENGKING"	Keelung	7 a.m. 27th Apr.
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"SOOCHOW"	Strait & Sibau	28th Apr.
"FENGTHIN"	Keelung	29th Apr.
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"AENEAS"	Dublin & Liverpool	24th May
"ASCANIUS"	Genoa, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg	25th May
"PYRRHUS"	Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow	6th June

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S. "AENEAS"	do	6th May
S. "ASCANIUS"	do	8th May
S. "PYRRHUS"	do	15th May
S. "CALCIAS"	do	23rd May
S. "AUTOMEDON"	24th Apr.	29th May
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"BENWYVIS"	U.K.	26th Apr.
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"BENVENUE"	U.K.	14th May
"BENREOCH"	U.K. via Singapore	19th May
"BENALBANACH"	U.K. via Singapore	15th June
"BENRIHON"	U.K.	15th June
"BENRINNES"	U.K.	15th June

SAILINGS

	TO	DEPARTS
"BENVORLICH"	Singapore, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg	20th Apr.
"BENWYVIS"	Kure, Kobe and Yokohama	30th Apr.
"BENAVON"	Direct to Singapore, thence Havre, London, Antwerp and Hull	5th May
"BENVENUE"	Liverpool, Rotterdam & Hamburg	16th May
"BENREOCH"	Kure, Kobe and Yokohama	23rd May
"BENWYVIS"	Direct to Singapore, thence Genoa, Liverpool, Dublin and Antwerp	26th May
"BENALBANACH"	Kure, Kobe and Yokohama	8th June
"BENREOCH"	Direct to Singapore, thence Havre, London, Rotterdam and Hull	10th June
"BENRINNES"	Genoa, Avonmouth, Liverpool and Glasgow	18th June

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April 23, 1953.

Washington Impatient Over Delay In Jap Rearming

Tokyo, Apr. 24.

The United States Government is dissatisfied with Japan's reluctance to produce concrete, detailed plans for her rearmament, according to authoritative sources in close touch with the Prime Minister's office.

When the State Department's Far East expert, Mr. John Allison, returns to Japan as Ambassador, it is expected that he will ask the Japanese Government to produce a programme.

The coming visit to Japan by Mr. John Foster Dulles, the United States Secretary of State, is also expected to stress the importance of Japan as a defence base in American policy.

During his last visit to Japan, Mr. Allison stated publicly that it was in fact hoped that Japan would begin to define her defence programme more closely.

It is recognised, however, that there are both political and economic obstacles.

Mr. Allison's plan for building an East Asian sea wall against Communism, Japan would have an important role.

She is the only non-Communist nation in the Far East with an industry capable of producing the arms for a modern war. She also the largest untapped resources of capable fighting men in the area.

But her budget this year makes no provision for increasing the number of men under arms here.

COMPLICATED ISSUE
Japan is defended by United States troops, ships and aircraft under the United States-Japan Security Treaty.

Her draft plan for rearmament was to have been taken to Washington early this spring by Mr. Higuchi Ickin, a former Finance Minister, with wide experience.

To ADVERTISERS

SUNDAY POST-HERALD
Space for commercial advertising should be booked not later than noon on Wednesdays.

For the SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST and the CHINA MAIL, 48 hours before date of publication.

Special Announcements and Classified Advertisements as usual.

porience of trade and industry here. But his visit was postponed.

Political sources said that Mr. Ikeda refused the job because his own Government would not give him proper authority to make an agreement.

Japan's rearmament is a very complicated issue involving many other problems.

Provided that the United States is prepared to pay, there is no apparent reason why Japan should not be built up as a major arsenal.

She has already proved herself useful to the United Nations forces in Korea as a source of ammunition and a host of minor items of equipment.

But for Japan to create a new Navy, Army and Air Force would arouse much opposition both here and abroad.

Some of the nations which fought her in the last war are still suspicious of a possible Japanese expansion by military conquest. Australia, for one, would probably resist the re-birth of big Japanese armed forces.

MANY PACIFISTS
Resistance would also be strong within Japan. Many Japanese, including some of the right-wing as well as Socialists, are sincere pacifists.

After the terrible losses of the last war, they do not wish to see Japanese again dying in their thousands in any overseas war.

Under her Constitution introduced under the Allied Occupation, Japan is pledged to maintain neither Navy, Army nor Air Force.

The creation of embryo which could form training cadres for a new military power is already well under way, however.

Japan has accepted 18 United States frigates and 50 large landing craft on loan for training her new navy. American officers are helping to train army officers and air force pilots; and a few Japanese officers of the ranks of major and colonel are expected shortly to go to the United States for training.

While political issues may hold up a big call to the colours here, agreement may be reached on the part Japan is to play in the new Communist armament of the Far East in Korea, Formosa, the Philippines, Hongkong and Indo-China.

The French Embassy announced recently that it will send a permanent mission here to buy Japanese equipment for Indo-China, where more arms will be needed for the Vietnamese battalions being raised.

Here, there is little, if any, opposition to Japan increasing her role as an arsenal. Since the outbreak of the war in Korea, supplying of Japanese equipment and ammunition to the United Nations forces has provided a source of foreign currency which Japan could ill afford to lose.

At present, Japan supplies only small items of war equipment. Bankers here have refused to lend money for factories to produce guns, tanks and jet aircraft. They want a guarantee of orders before they take the financial risk.

Many Japanese manufacturers finding difficulty in getting loans from their bankers, have urged the Government to ask for firm arms orders from the American Government.

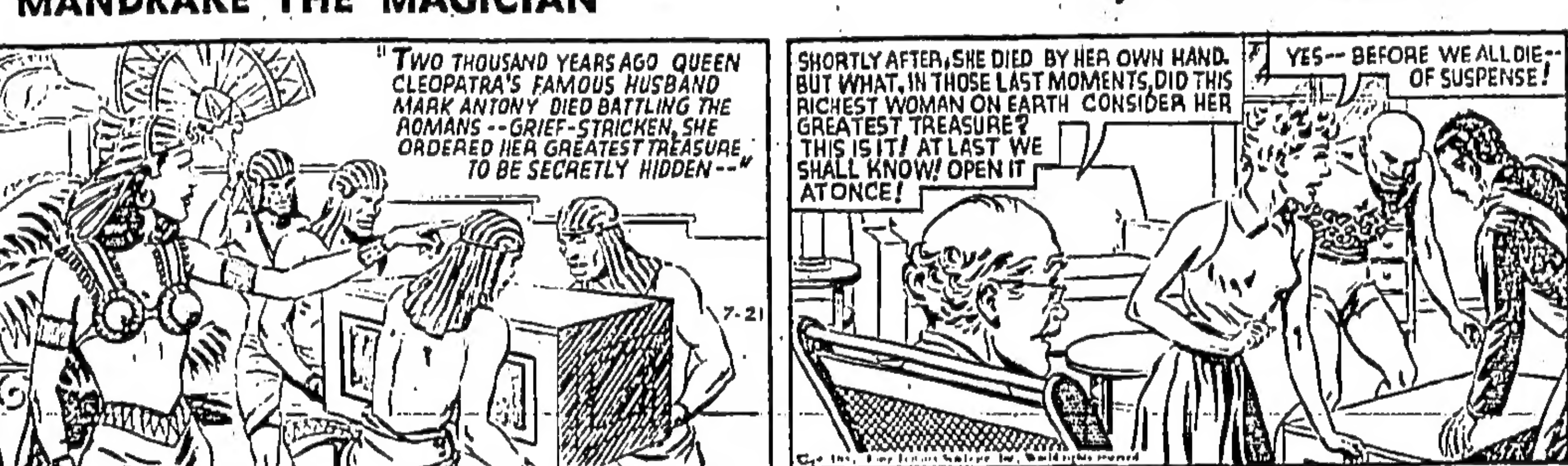
Japan can bargain from a strong position. As long as her security is guaranteed by the United States, she can ask, "Why should we bother to rearm?"

She realises well how valuable a military ally she can become. And impoverished as she is by the loss of her power markets on the Asian mainland, now in Communist hands, she will no doubt drive a hard bargain.

At the same time, she is a proud country. Even pacifists fume at Japan's apparent inability to protect her fishing ships against South Korean patrol boats enforcing a fishing ban within 60 miles of the Korean coast, while the prospect of their country being a permanent ward of the United States appeals to few people here.—Reuter.

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

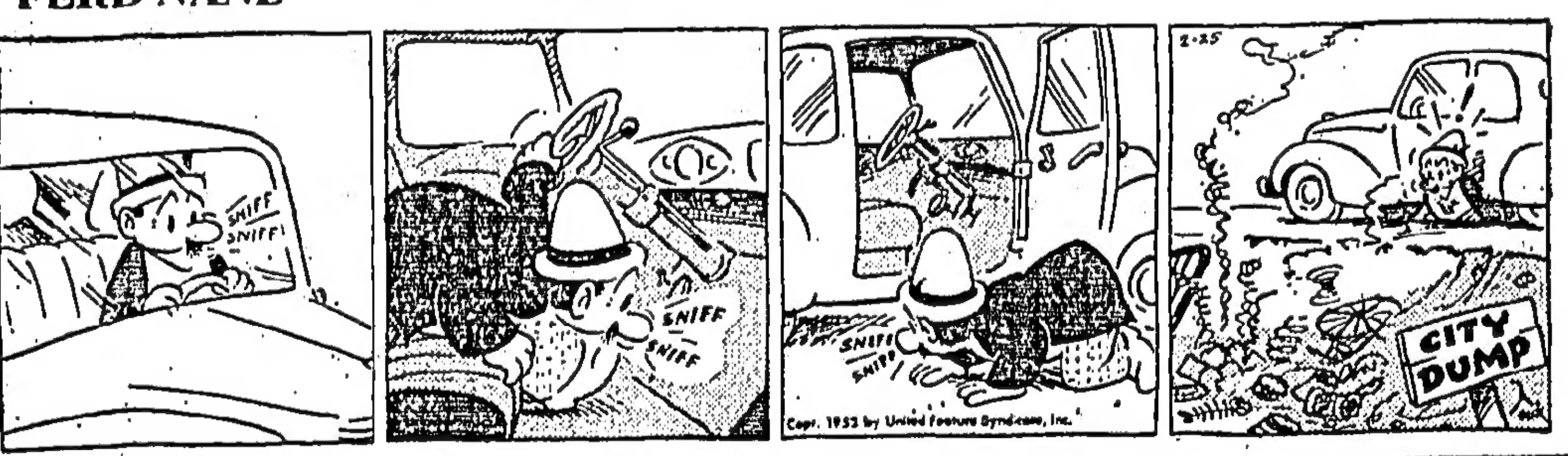
By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



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"ORNA"	due 8th May	for Singapore
	sails 6th May	from Madras, Colombo, Karachi & Bombay
"ORMARA"	due 6th May	from Bombay, Colombo & Singapore
	sails 7th May	for Japan

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H.K. AT HEALTH CONGRESS

London, Apr. 23.
Representatives of nearly 40 countries, including Pakistan, East and West Africa, Malaya, Hongkong and the West Indies, will be among the 2,500 delegates and other visitors attending a four-day Health Congress at Hastings, Sussex, opening on April 28.

The Congress, organised by the Royal Sanitary Institute, meets annually to discuss all aspects of health in U.K. and overseas.

Delegates will hear papers read by British and overseas experts on subjects ranging from social medicine and food hygiene to environmental control in the tropics.

Lectures will be given on such subjects as the role of the public health nurse in the tropics, preventive medicine and the future of the child welfare and maternity services.

During the Congress, arrangements have been made for delegates to inspect local housing sites, food factories, schools, public health engineering works and homes for the aged.

A dinner to welcome overseas delegates will be held in the Hastings hotel and the Mayor of Hastings will also hold a reception.

President of the Congress is the Rt. Hon. Lord Percy of Newcastle, P. C., a former Minister of the University of Durham, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Education, and President of the Board of Education.—London Express

S'pore Experiment

London, Apr. 23.

The hurried day-old cockerels left London Airport by Comet today on an experimental flight to Singapore.

If they survive a new market will have been opened for British poultry exporters.—Reuter



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Page 10

FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 1953.

Sheaffer's
"SNORKEL"

JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

THE INTRUDER

THE housewife busy in a basement room of her East End flat heard a bump and then sounds of someone moving about on the floor of the bedroom immediately above her head.

For a moment she thought nothing of it, one or other of the children, she supposed, must be in the room above. She began to go on with her work, and then suddenly she remembered that all her three children were out playing with friends.

The housewife put down her work and hurried upstairs. As she reached the hallway a man she had never seen before aloped through the bedroom door.

Although he was taller than she, the housewife immediately barred his way: "What are you doing here?" she demanded.

LOOKING FOR A BED
"I WAS looking for a bed," the stranger said, in a North Country accent. He kept his hands behind his back as he spoke.

"You've no business in here," the housewife said. She called up to her neighbours, who lived in the first and second floors of the house. They came down, husband and wife. The wife pulled the stranger's arm from behind his back: "What you got there?" she asked.

They all saw soon enough; the stranger had held of a child's handbag, one of those ones soldiers brought home from the Middle East, embossed with pictures of the Pyramids and camels.

"It's my kid's," said the housewife.
"I'll hold him," said her neighbour, "run and telephone the police."

THROUGH THE MIRROR
THE stranger, whose name was Alfred, was taken away. He sat in the back of the police car with the policeman sitting next to him, and the child's handbag on the seat between them.

For a moment the policeman's attention was diverted from his prisoner. In that moment Alfred did something with the window on his side of the car. Through his driving mirror, the officer saw the wheel saw him doing something with the window, but could not see what he did.

Just unpacked by PAA the season's loveliest gowns for weddings, gala parties, dinners and cocktails.

Also a magnificent breath-taking collection of lavishly embroidered nylon blouses and washable TRES CHIC new cotton casual dresses of all sizes.... very few duplicates.... generally one of a style. At Mode Elite you'll find all the charming panoply for the wedding party you've always dreamed of. Also every thing you need for your next vacation wear.

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COME IN - SEE THEM!

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Printed and published by WILLIAM ALICE GREENHAM for and on behalf of South China Morning Post Limited at 1-3 Wyndham Street, City of Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong.

"Leave that window alone," said the driver.
"I only wanted some air," Alfred whined. The window which had been shut was now six inches open; but no one thought much about it until the police-station was reached, when it was discovered that the stolen handbag had disappeared.

Alfred looked exceedingly pleased with himself.
He still looked pleased with himself next morning when, at the Thames Court, he pleaded not guilty to stealing the bag.

UNFORTUNATELY
THE housewife told her story to Colonel W. E. Bait, the magistrate, and when she had done, Alfred said to her: "Can you produce this bag?"

"Unfortunately no," the housewife answered.
The policeman told of his arrest, of the disappearance of the bag, Alfred, he said, had shown no signs of having taken drink.

"Where's the bag?" Alfred demanded.

"He's told you he hasn't got it," said the magistrate.
"What do you want to say?"

INCORRIGIBLE
"NOTHING much," Alfred answered. "I was drunk, they say I picked up this bag, personally I don't think it exists."

"Well you're guilty all right," said Colonel Bait, who was then told that Alfred was 64 years old and had 40 previous convictions.

"Never worked, quite incorrigible, that right?" the magistrate asked. The officer who had read Alfred's record replied that those words summed up Alfred's career very neatly.

"Go to prison for three months," said the magistrate. They led Alfred out. The housewife and her neighbour bustled away to their homes.

The little drama that had touched their lives was over; they had come out of it well, but they would have to catch up on the working time it had cost them. Housewives have not really time for heroics.

'What's His Line?' Solution
HARDWARE MERCHANT
London Express Service

Tenancy Tribunal Application

Parties Come To Terms

Both occupants of the Aberdeen lots which are required by the landlords for building houses and a cinema, agreed to withdraw their opposition this morning. The Counsel agreed the terms out of court, and presented them before Mr Charles E. Losby, QC, at the Tenancy Tribunal hearing.

The four landlords of the property applied for exemption of the lots from the provisions of the Landlord and Tenant Ordinance. They said they wanted to build 16 houses, 10 shops and a cinema where only a few wooden shacks now stood. Applicants were Chiu Ki, partner of the Wing Sang Construction Co., of 14 North Point Road, second floor, 1p. Pong, building contractor, of 12 North Point Road, Li Chik, merchant, of 9 Seymour Road, and Fung Ling, married woman, of 100 Sing Wo Road, ground floor.

They sought the exemption of Aberdeen Inland Lots 81 and 82 from the application of the Ordinance.

The application was opposed by the Wing Chuen Company, fish sauce merchants, and Kine Kee, sundry goods dealer, the present occupants of the lots concerned.

Mr Oswald V. Cheung, instructed by Mr Peter Mo, appeared for the applicants, while Mr D. A. L. Wright, instructed by Mr Peter H. Sin, represented the opponents.

THE TERMS

Terms on which the agreement was made were:—That the applicants would pay the opponents \$12,000 on receiving the exemption order or upon vacating the premises; that the opponents would vacate the premises not later than five months from today; that the opponents will give an undertaking to vacate as soon as they are in a position to build on the alternative site they have secured in Aberdeen; that the opponents will pay all arrears of rent at \$150 a month from April 1, 1952, and rent at the same rate until they vacate; that the costs of \$2,500 should be paid by the applicants.

Mr Losby's report will be forwarded to the Governor in Council for the final decision. Mr Wright pointed out that an alternative site had been secured at Aberdeen, and the opponents would commence building operations as soon as the lay-out of the site had been approved.

Shipping Risk Rates Down

A general lowering of war and strike, riot and civil commotion shipping risk rates for voyages to, from and between Chinese ports was announced by the Institute of London Underwriters.

Exports from China, north of Canton, up to and including Shanghai, are now quoted at £1 per £100, compared with £2 per £100 previously.

From Shanghai and ports north thereof up to and including Manchuria (including Port Arthur and Dairen); for vessels proceeding overseas 10/- per £100, for direct regular liners excluding chartered vessels terminating voyages in Hongkong, 10/- per £100, for other vessels terminating in Hongkong £1 per £100.

The rates for imports to China include: by vessels from the United Kingdom or the Continent and other overseas voyages £1 per £100, by regular liners, excluding chartered vessels, including and commencing voyages in Hongkong £1 per £100, by all other vessels loading and commencing voyages in Hongkong to China ports north of Canton, up to and including Manchuria, Port Arthur and Dairen, excluding Formosa and Korea, £3 per £100.

Voyages between the China coast ports for Canton and north thereof are now quoted £3 per £100, against £5 per £100 previously.—Reuter.

Ridgways In Holland



Mrs Ridgway looks on as her husband, General Ridgway, is garlanded with daffodils when visiting the "Flora 1953" Horticultural Exhibition at Heemstede, near Haarlem in Holland.—London Express.

Latest Official Appointments

The following official appointments were listed in today's Gazette:
Mr Terence Dare Sorby to be an Assistant Director of Commerce and Industry; Messrs John James Cowperthwaite and Christopher Frederick Thompson to be Financial Secretaries respectively during the absence of the Hon. Arthur Grenfell Clarke; Mr Jb Petersen to act as Marketing Officer during the absence of Mr Robert Hart; Mr Cheong Wai-ling to act as Senior Education Officer during the absence of Mr Cheung Wing-min.
The following to act as Chief Health Inspectors, Urban Council and Sanitary Department: Messrs Edward Arthur Chater, George Henry Abel Morris, Stanley George Poole, Edward Frank Chadfield.
Mr David Louis Strellett to be a member of the Authorised Architects Consulting Committee vice Mr Maurice Murray Watson, resigned. Major Hector Frederick George Chauvin to be a member of the Traffic Advisory Committee.

Radio Hongkong

H.K.T. Signal and Programme Summary: 6.00, Children's Hour presented by Sally Ann (Broadcasting); 6.15, News to the Diocesan Girls' School (Recorded); 6.30, Old Time Ballroom with Sandy Thompson and his Orchestra (BBC); 7.15, Star Performer—Frederick Ferrar (Tenor) with Frank Chadfield and his Orchestra; 7.15, Talking about Hongkong by Dr S. G. Davis and Rev. Father Ann (Broadcasting); 7.30, Tip Top Times presented by Jean (Studio); 7.45, News; 8.00, Weather Report; 8.15, Time Signal and World News (London Times); 8.15, Appeal for the Mission to Lepers Hongkong Auxiliary by Dr N. D. Fraser (Recorded); 8.15, Kingsway Symphony Orchestra; 8.30, The Mayor of Castlebridge by Thomas A. Harvill; 8.45, News; 9.00, Episodes by Desmond Hawkins, Music composed by Ralph Vaughan Williams, Part 3 (BBC); 9.15, Music Lovers' Hour—Classical Requests presented by Curtis Hudson (Studio); 10.00, Science Survey—Exploring the Upper Atmosphere by James Paton and Sir Edward Appleton (BBC); 10.15, Record of the Week; 10.30, Record of the Week; 10.45, Record of the Week; 11.00, Goodnight Music—The Queen's Hall Light Orchestra; 11.30, Close down.

Exchange Of POWs Proposal

Panmunjom, Apr. 24.—The United Nations proposed today that the exchange of sick and wounded prisoners be continued after the present exchange agreement expires on May 10th.
The UN also promised to increase the number of Communist it will return, matching the Communist action yesterday in announcing their intention to release "all" sick and wounded prisoners and to include the recently captured men—United Press.

Thousands Made Homeless

Pusan, Apr. 23.—Thousands of Koreans were homeless last night as fire raged through an estimated square mile of temporary housing on a hill-top in the central section of Pusan.
Fire Marshall Major Jack McNeil said no casualties had been reported.—Reuter.

A FAMOUS BATTLE RECALLED

Commemoration At Stanley

One of the most vital battles of the Korean war was commemorated this morning at Stanley when the 170 Light Battery, Royal Artillery, held a parade to mark the second anniversary of Solma-ri.

A large crowd, mainly composed of military personnel stationed at Stanley, gathered to see the colourful parade at which Brigadier R. D. Bolton, Commander Hongkong and Kowloon Garrison, took the Salute. This was followed by a Church Parade in the Garrison Church. The Battery, which was formerly known as the 170 Independent Mountain Battery, RA, observed the first anniversary of the battle last year with a Church Service. They came to Hongkong from Korea some months after the famous engagement.

It was above the village of Solma-ri in Korea that the engagement was fought during the Battle for the Imjin River—April 22 to 25, 1951. The 29 Independent Infantry Brigade Group was holding the key position in the Army line, being deployed on a nine mile front south of the river and astride one of the classical invasion routes from the North.

GREAT DISTINCTION
The three troops in the Battery, each supporting a battalion, fought with great distinction. A and B Troops both executed difficult moves under immediate enemy pressure and were often shooting continuously for long periods. They fired more than 11,000 rounds between them. But it was C Troop that fought the most conspicuous action. Supporting the Gloucesters, they first engaged the enemy with mortar fire, but were later attacked on their position, and forced to destroy their equipment and retreat with the Gloucesters to Hill 235, above the village of Solma-ri. There, completely surrounded, they fought as infantry until ordered to withdraw with the battalion. The Troop attempted to break out on 25 April, but unfortunately all ranks were either captured or killed in action.

This engagement subsequently earned C Troop, 170 Independent Mountain Battery RA, and the 1st Battalion the Gloucestershire Regt. the only two United States Presidential Citations to be granted to the United Kingdom units. The distinction was awarded as a mark of outstanding gallantry. 29 Brigade had sustained the main weight of the Chinese offensive during the 3-day battle, and the Commanding General, 8th United States Army stated that this action enabled Seoul, the capital of South Korea, to be held.

Suicide Attempt
Singapore, Apr. 23.—An Indian poured kerosene over his body here and then asked a policeman for a match. For this he was charged later in court with attempted suicide.—Reuter.

Deaf And Blind Mendicant
Deaf and blind, a 62-year-old beggar stumbled out of the dock at Central Court this morning when Mr Hin-shing Lo cautioned and discharged him for begging from pedestrians near Central Market yesterday.

Grumbling and pointing at his ears, Wong Wai-ching, who gave his address as 81, Connaught Road Central, ground-floor, and insisted that he had no food to eat and relatives to look after him, was additionally bound over by Mr Lo in \$25 for six months.

Defendant, clinging on to a staff, and vainly attempting to hear what was said, was told he had two previous convictions for mendicancy.

NEW OFFICIALS

It was notified in today's Gazette that the following changes have been made in the constitution of the Church of England in Hongkong:

Mr Graham Scudamore, Principal Haywood to be "Secretary" during the absence of Mr James Temple Prior; The Rev. Frederick Stephen Temple to be Dean of St. John's Cathedral; The Rev. Alan Pragon Rose.

"Erbert Iggs", Back In Hongkong, Writes To The Editor

Before World War II broke out a gentleman, writing under the pseudonym of "Erbert Iggs," regularly contributed to the former Hongkong Telegraph amusing commentaries, in cockney idiom, on current local events and personalities.

"Erbert Iggs" is back in Hongkong on a visit. In reality he is Mr Harold Guard of the United Press who is due to return to London by air tomorrow.

Before leaving he has sent in the following "Then and Now" commentary about Hongkong to the Editor of the China Mail.

dear mister editor,
jest a few lines as it leaves me at present opine you are the same and that you will remember iggs (erbert) number 1178464/800 male, single, com- was three beers in honkong took about the three beers was a rumper there was wen some bloke said beer was gon up to 50 cents a bottle

of course mister editor wea we starts torkin abt yer beer that's ecknomicks which I don't speak yu understand but taks it from iggs sumbodys makin a packet outa yu mugs strike me pink yu or else see wot the lads out in the noo terrifies pays for luvly nurrishin gin—and I aint torkin abt the welch regiment

the trubel is we go at meny politishuns wot keeps torkin abt costerlvin but they don't know their carole from a ole in the grand

9d A WALLOP
but torkin as a eskimo from london kilt say in honkong and the isenshul but I will be glad ter git back ter the ole lambeth road where theres more than three beers at ninepence a wallop and it puts air on yer chest

and tork abt rain and fog in london cos stone the crows wot abt littel ole honkong—takin a isenshul servis along—bown rode—nowdays—is a flippin ambibus operation

but if any of yu blokes wants a reel treat jest yu git in tuch wiv iggs (erbert) unlimited london

cum on over a take a gander at wote gon on—littel ole queen elizabeth and the—dole havin a shindig

and wot abt the littel ole test match wiv the aussies dam the oval cor chase my ole aunt fanny ramed the gasworks wot a wallopin sumbodys gon ter get

which reminds me I feel more like a heap of aches and the gingle bells is callin

insidently I aint travelling incognter this time ime virgo inactus

orl the best mister editor it aint arf a flippin carry on aint it

yours respectivly
ERBERT IGGS.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"I hope rocket ships are perfected for planet trips pretty soon—a driver like you could sure use that space!"